

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 01489 201423Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 LAB-04 SIL-01 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3268

DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC

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USDOC FOR BEWT ABRAHAMSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, BEWT, HU

SBJ: COMMENTS ON EE COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE

REF: ABRAHAMSON LETTER, MAY 1, 1975

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED DRAFT REPORT ON EASTERN EUROPEAN ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE HELD BERLIN FEB 25-28.

2. POST AGREES WITH MOST RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT HAS SERIOUS RESERVATIONS WITH INITIAL CONCLUSION OF GROUP NUMBER SIX WHICH STATES "COMMERCIAL FACILITIES DEPARATE FROM THE CHANCERY ARE DESIRABLE." WITH THE EXISTING LEVEL OF HUNGARIAN/AMERICAN TRADE AND EVEN ASSUMING A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE WITH THE ULTIMATE ADVENT OF MFN, THIS EMBASSY IS WELL QUALIFIED TO HANDLE WORKLOAD FROM CHANCERY WHICH IS CENTRALLY LOCATED AND WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE OF HUNGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MFT, AND NUMEROUS FTOS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT U.S. TRADE WITH ROMANIA DEVELOPING WELL WITHOUT SEPARATE COMMERCIAL FACILITY. FINALLY, IF WE WERE TO PREMATURELY ESTABLISH COMMERCIAL CENTER IN HUNGARY AND THEN WERE FORCED TO CLOSE IT, THIS WOULD PROVE MOST EMBARRASSING AS THE HUNGARIANS WOULD CERTAINLY VIEW IT AS A STEP BACKWARDS IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

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PAGE 02 BUDAPE 01489 201423Z

3. BUDAPEST PARTICIPANTS BENEFITED FROM CONFERENCE AND

RECOMMEND THAT WORKING GROUP FORMAT AND DCM ATTENDANCE
BE CONFIRMED. POST ALSO SUGGESTS THAT AGRICULTURE AND
CIV AIR BE INCLUDED IN PLANS FOR NEXT CONFERENCE WITH
BRIEFING BY COMPETENT USDA/FAS EE EXPERT AND STATE DEPT
AVIATION OFFICIAL.
MCAULIFFE

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Message Attributes

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